

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claim will replace all prior versions and listings of claim in the present application.

Listing of Claims

1. (previously presented) A disk unit, connectable to a server computer and a client computer via a network, wherein the server computer manages a plurality of function programs that the client computer requests to execute and manages data stored in the disk unit, the disk unit comprising:

disk storage media for storing data; and

a control unit which includes a memory for storing the function programs and function information relating to some of the plurality of function programs,

wherein said control unit receives one of the function programs from the server computer and stores the received function program into the memory,

wherein said control unit receives a function execution request from the server computer, requesting execution of one of the function programs, from the server computer, selects the requested function program from the memory, selects the function information in connection with the selected function program, and executes the selected function program according to a condition described in the selected function information,

wherein the function execution request is sent from the to the server computer to request execution of one of the function programs, and

wherein said control unit examines, based on the selected function information, wherein an access from external of said disk unit to the data stored in said disk storage media is allowable and restricts accesses to the data stored in the

disk storage media from external of said disk unit during execution of the selected function program.

2. (previously presented) A disk unit according to claim 1, wherein:
the selected function program is a selection or extraction process in a database.

3. (previously presented) A disk unit according to claim 1, wherein:
execution of the selected function program includes a direct data transfer between the client and the disk unit without passing through the server.

4. (previously presented) A disk unit according to claim 1, wherein:
the selected function information comprises a list that indicates an accessible area, and
wherein said control unit examines whether access to the data is allowable based on the list.

5. (previously presented) A disk unit according to claim 4, wherein:
the list comprises attributes indicating at least one of read, write and executable, related to access restriction during execution of the selected function program.

6. (previously presented) A disk unit according to claim 4, wherein:
said control unit abnormally terminates execution of the selected

function program in case that an access occurs in violation of the access examination.

7. (currently amended) A disk unit according to claim 1, wherein:

said control unit monitors whether execution of the selected function program was performed successfully and restores data stored in said disk storage media to its state prior to execution of ~~said~~ the selected function program in case that execution of the selected function program was not successful.

8. (previously presented) A disk unit according to claim 1, wherein:

said control unit monitors whether execution of the selected function program was performed successfully, sets in the function information a user command that specifies whether to restore data stored in said disk storage media to its state prior to execution of the selected function program in case that execution of the selected function program was not successful and restores data stored in said disk storage media to its state prior to execution of the function only in case where a command has been set in the function information to restore data stored in said disk storage media to its state prior to execution of the selected function program in case that execution of the selected function program was not successful.

9. (previously presented) A disk unit according to claim 7, wherein:

said control unit does not overwrite non-updated data with data updated from the selected function program execution, until the execution of the selected function program is complete.

10. (previously presented) A disk unit according to claim 8, wherein:
a control unit does not overwrite non-updated data with data updated from the selected function program execution, until the execution of the selected function program is complete.

11. (previously presented) A disk unit according to claim 9, wherein:
said control unit stores data updated from said selected function program execution in the memory.

15. (previously presented) A method of controlling a disk unit connectable to a server computer and a client computer via a network, wherein the disk unit has disk storage media for storing data, and a control unit, and wherein the server computer manages a function program that the client computer requests to execute and manages data stored in the disk unit, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving, in said disk unit, a function program and function information relating to execution of the function program from the server computer;

executing, in said disk unit, the function program in response to a function execution request from the client computer as per the function information; and

examining, in said disk unit, based on the function information, accesses from external of said disk unit to the data stored in said disk storage media and restricting the accesses during execution of the function program.

16. (previously presented) A method of controlling a disk unit according to claim 15, wherein:

the function program is a selection or extraction process in a database.

17. (previously presented) A method of controlling a disk unit according to claim 15, wherein:

the function program is a direct data transfer between the client and disk units without passing through the server.

18. (previously presented) A method of controlling a disk unit according to claim 15, wherein:

the function information comprises a list that indicates an accessible area, and wherein said control unit examines accesses for the data based on the list.

Claim 19 (canceled).

20. (previously presented) A client/server system comprising:
a client computer;
a server computer connected to the client computer; and
a disk unit connected to the client computer and the server computer, the disk unit having disk storage media for storing data, and a control unit,
wherein said client computer requests execution of a function program by said server computer,
wherein said server computer creates function information relating to

execution of the function program that has been requested from said client computer, and

wherein said disk unit receives the function program and the function information from the server computer, executes the function program as per the function information and examines, based on the function information, accesses from external of said disk unit to the data stored in said disk storage media and restricts the accesses during execution of the function program.